

## UNIVERSIDAD DE CANTABRIA

## PRUEBA DE ACCESO A LA UNIVERSIDAD PARA MAYORES DE 25 AÑOS MAYO 2017

## LENGUA EXTRANJERA: INGLÉS

Los dispositivos que pueden conectarse a internet o que pueden recibir o emitir información deben estar apagados durante la celebración del examen y no pueden estar a la vista.

## WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

William Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright, and actor. He was born on 26 April 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. His father was a successful local businessman and his mother was the daughter of a landowner. Shakespeare is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and nicknamed the Bard of Avon. He wrote about 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and a few other verses. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.

Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway at the age of 18. She was eight years older than him. They had three children. After his marriage information about his life became very rare. But he is thought to have spent most of his time in London writing and performing in his plays. Between 1585 and 1592, he began a successful career in London as an actor, writer, and part-owner of a playing company called the Lord Chamberlain's Men, later known as the King's Men.

Around 1613, at the age of 49, he retired to Stratford, where he died three years later. Few records of Shakespeare's private life survive. He died on 23 April 1616, at the age of 52. He died within a month of signing his will, a document which he begins by describing himself as being in "perfect health".

Shakespeare produced most of his known work between 1589 and 1613. His early plays were mainly comedies and histories and these works remain regarded as some of the best work produced in these genres. He then wrote mainly tragedies until about 1608, including Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, and Macbeth, considered some of the finest works in the English language. In his last phase, he wrote tragicomedies, also known as romances, and collaborated with other playwrights.

Shakespeare's plays remain highly popular today and are constantly studied, performed, and reinterpreted in diverse cultural and political contexts throughout the world.

TASK 1 (60%). Translate the first paragraph into Spanish.

TASK 2 (20%) Choose the correct option A,B,C for each question and COPY the sentence onto your answer sheet.

1)	A) Shakespeare was known as the Bard of Avon.
	B) Shakespeare's uncle was the Bard of Avon.
	C) The Bard of Avon was Shakespeare's son.
2)	A) Shakespeare's wife was much younger than him.
	B) Shakespeare's wife was older than him.
	C) Shakespeare was eight years older than his wife.
3)	A) Shakespeare died at the age of 49.
	B) Shakespeare died in 1613.
	C) Shakespeare died in Stratford.
4)	A) Shakespeare early plays were mainly tragedies.
	B) Shakespeare wrote comedies and histories then he wrote tragedies.
	C) In his last phase Shakespeare wrote mainly tragedies

TASK 3 (20%). Do you think reading books is important? Give reasons for your opinion (80-100 words).